

38TH CONGRESS, }
2d Session. }

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

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} No. 1.

MESSAGE

OF THE

PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES,

AND

ACCOMPANYING DOCUMENTS,

TO THE

TWO HOUSES OF CONGRESS,

AT

THE COMMENCEMENT OF THE SECOND SESSION

OF

THE THIRTY-EIGHTH CONGRESS.

WASHINGTON:
GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE
1864.

SEVENTH ANNUAL REPORT
OF
THE COLUMBIA INSTITUTION
FOR
THE DEAF AND DUMB AND THE BLIND,
FOR THE YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 1864.

OFFICERS OF THE INSTITUTION.

Patron.—ABRAHAM LINCOLN, *President of the United States.*
President.—EDWARD MINER GALLAUDET, A. M.
Secretary.—WILLIAM STICKNEY.
Treasurer.—GEORGE W. RIGGS, JR.
Directors.—HON. AMOS KENDALL, WILLIAM H. EDES, JUDSON MITCHELL,
JAMES C. MCGUIRE, DAVID A. HALL, Rev. BYRON SUNDERLAND, D. D.
Examining Committee.—BENJAMIN B. FRENCH, JOSEPH HENRY, LL.D.,
Rev. T. R. HOWLETT.

COLLEGIATE DEPARTMENT.

President.—EDWARD M. GALLAUDET, A. M.
Professor.—RICHARD S. STORRS, A. M.
Instructor.—ROSWELL PARISH, JR., A. B.

ACADEMIC DEPARTMENT.

Instructors.—ROSWELL PARISH, JR., A. B., JOSEPH H. IJAMS, SAMUEL A.
ADAMS.
Instructor of Drawing.—PETER BAUMGRAS.
Instructress of the Blind.—MARY T. G. GORDON.
Attending Physician.—N. S. LINCOLN, M. D.
Matron.—Mrs. THOMAS H. GALLAUDET.
Assistant Matron.—Mrs. SOPHIA G. HUNTER.

COLUMBIA INSTITUTION FOR THE INSTRUCTION
OF THE DEAF AND DUMB AND THE BLIND,
November 17, 1864.

SIR: In compliance with the acts of Congress making provision for the support of this institution, we have the honor to report its progress during the year ending June 30, 1864.

The pupils remaining in the institution on the 1st of July, 1863, numbered	52
Entered during the year.....	10
Dismissed during the year.....	4 6
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Remaining on the 30th of June last.....	58
Entered since June 30.....	19
Dismissed since June 30.....	4
Total number of pupils under instruction since the 1st of July, 1863.....	81
Deaf mutes, males, 45; females, 27; total.....	72
Blind, males, 4; females, 5; total.....	9

A table, marked C, is hereto appended, showing the names and residences of all the pupils instructed in the institution during the last year.

It will be noticed that the number of blind pupils is very small. This has been the case from the foundation of the institution, and is attributable in part to the fact that the proportion of blind persons of a teachable age, in all parts of the United States, is much less than that of the deaf and dumb, and further to the fact that while the deaf and dumb of Maryland are instructed in this institution (their expenses being defrayed out of the treasury of the State) the blind of that Commonwealth are educated in an institution, established expressly for their benefit in the city of Baltimore.

The smallness of our blind department, and the consequent difficulties of classification, have led us to the conclusion that since no advantages are to be derived from the association in the same institution of the deaf and the blind, the best interests of *our* blind will be advanced by their transfer to an institution exclusively for persons bereft of sight. It is therefore respectfully recommended that Congress be asked to modify the existing laws as to admissions into this institution, so that, after the expiration of the current year, blind persons, now entitled to be received here, may be instructed elsewhere. Since Maryland has provided for her deaf mutes in this institution, and in view of the fact that she has a well-conducted school in successful operation easily accessible from this District, it would seem appropriate that our blind should be placed in the institution in Baltimore.

The deaf mute department has largely increased in numbers since our last report, and we trust those whom God's alleviating providence has brought to us have experienced a moral and intellectual development that shall exert an influence for good on themselves and others through all time. The deportment of the pupils in both departments, considering their natural disabilities, has been highly gratifying to the officers of the institution. Especially with the older pupils have unmistakable evidences appeared of maturing stability of character, of high aims in life, of mental growth, of respect for the ordinances of religion, and of deep patriotic feeling.

Our corps of instructors has undergone some modification since our last report.

Mr. James Denison, for seven years a faithful and successful teacher, has been compelled by the condition of his health to relinquish his position. The lack of his valuable services will be greatly felt in the institution, and it is hoped that with the return of another year he may be able to resume his labors here.

Mr. William E. Ijams, whose engagement in the institution was but temporary, retired on the 1st of March last to enter upon the work of the Gospel ministry. He was succeeded by his brother, Mr. Joseph H. Ijams, who had been for six years an instructor in the Iowa Institution for the Deaf and Dumb. The progress of the pupils placed under Mr. Ijams's care furnishes decided evidence of his ability and faithfulness in his profession.

Mr. Samuel A. Adams, a deaf mute, who has been for some years giving

